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EDITOR'S NOTE

It is with pleasure that we dedicate this issue of 'Iowa Bird Life' to the Sioux City Bird Club, which celebrated its 30th Anniversary in November, 1943. This local club has attained an enviable record of accomplishment and sustained activity during three full decades. It is the oldest bird study organization in the state of Iowa, and one of the oldest in the United States. The members decided to mark their Club's anniversary by sponsoring a special issue of our magazine, contributing a generous amount toward the cost of publication. This sponsoring of an entire issue of a state bird magazine by a local club is a pioneer project in which the Sioux City group erects a permanent monument to its co-operative efforts. Local club work, efficiently directed, is a distinct asset to the state organization and helps to weld the links in our nation-wide conservation of wildlife. To the Sioux City Bird Club we extend best wishes and hearty congratulations.

—Fred J. Pierce.

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THE MAKERS OF ORNITHOLOGY IN NORTHWESTERN IOWA

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Some time or other history must be written. So long as people maintain an interest in a particular field of knowledge or activity they must have some acquaintance with the previous state of that knowledge. Consequently this writer is undertaking to put down what he has learned concerning the early development of ornithology in the northwestern corner of the state of Iowa. The primary purpose is to present the biographies of men, those men who have lived in the region and who have contributed to our knowledge of its bird life. In some cases the sources of information were very limited. The men of the early period of exploration were non-residents, and their biographies were long ago made a part of history. However, to give this paper a semblance of completeness we shall attempt to summarize the ornithological results of their explorations in this vicinity.

Following the method of Dr. Elliott Coues in his historical work, we have roughly divided the history of ornithological work in northwestern Iowa into four periods, defined as follows:

I. The Early Period, or Period of Exploration, from 1804 to 1880. This includes the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Audubon's trip in 1843, Dr. F. V. Hayden's collections in 1856, and Samuel Aughey's studies of 1878.

II. The Talbot Period, from 1880 to 1889. Besides D. H. Talbot, we include here the names of Alexander Scougale, Charles H. Wells, and Alfred Russel Wallace.

III. The Rich Period, 1889 to 1913. This period covers the work of some who are still living, including the one from whom the period takes its name.

IV. The Bird Club Period, or Period of Organized Bird Study, from 1913 to the present time. The people concerned in this period are in many cases contemporary. At least the Bird Club is alive and active, and is writing its own history. Little will be said about this period in this paper.

I. The Early Period, 1804-1880

The Lewis and Clark Expedition ascended the Missouri River in the summer of 1804. They entered the present limits of Iowa on July 18. They reached Blackbird Hill (in Thurston County, Nebraska), opposite Monona County, Iowa, on August 11. By the 13th they had reached the Omaha Indian village located within the present limits of Dakota County, Nebraska. It seems highly probable, therefore, that the party entered the present limits of Woodbury County, Iowa, on the 13th. They left the mouth of the Big Sioux River (and Iowa) on August 21.

Of the 34 camps during the traverse of future Iowa, three were on sandbars; (two others were on sandbars which have since been claimed as Nebraska soil (Swenk, 1935)); 19 were on the Nebraska side of the river; and 12 were on the "north," or Iowa side.

During the journey of the Expedition up the river, in which they stopped now on one side, now on the other, many forms of wildlife were observed. And the various journal writers made notes on such observations. But, of course, these notations were made in colloquial terms, many of which are now difficult to recognize. Later commentators have attempted to identify such vernacular names, with reasonable success in some instances and with much uncertainty in others. Swenk (1935) has listed 20 possible species of birds (seven with question marks)

noted by the party as it passed the present shores of Nebraska. Waiving the question as to which side of the river these records apply, this writer believes that the evidence (within the original manuscript) is sufficient to justify the acceptance of only the following four species of birds as having been seen over Iowa soil.

White Pelican. Harrison County. Great numbers of these birds were seen on August 8 a short distance above the mouth of the Little Sioux River. Nowadays this would seem a little early for these birds to be in this locality as migrants.

American Bittern. Harrison County.

Piping Plover. Harrison County.

Wild Turkey. Pottawattamie County.

It must be said, however, that these records belong to the southwestern corner of the state. No satisfactory records for the northern margin of Iowa have been found.

AUDUBON'S TRIP UP THE MISSOURI RIVER IN 1843

In 1843 John James Audubon ascended the Missouri River and passed the future site of Sioux City. On this trip he was more concerned with mammals than with birds. He did discover and name several new birds, but they were not reported from the area here covered. Apparently the only ornithological note which bears on this region is the one concerning the Cliff Swallow colony, and even that belongs to the Nebraska side of the river. In his diary (Audubon, 1897) under date of May 13 (page 486) it is recorded that, "After a while we passed under some beautiful bluffs surmounted by many cedars, and these bluffs were composed of fine white sandstone, of a soft texture, but very beautiful to the eye. In several places along this bluff we saw clusters of nests of Swallows, which we all looked upon as those of the Cliff Swallow, although I saw not one of the birds."

May 13 was probably a little too early for the arrival of the breeding Cliff Swallows in this locality; although we have records of migrants throughout May. It may be proper to mention here that this colony of swallows was rediscovered in 1937 by a group of local observers; and the account of this rediscovery was given in detail by Bruce F. Stiles (1941). On this occasion it was estimated by close counting that this great colony contained approximately 2,600 nests. As the birds left their nests and swarmed over the river the movement and density of the flight made a thrilling sight.

On the same date the Audubon party passed Woodbury County, Iowa, and camped at the mouth of the Big Sioux River. At this point Audubon's notes say: "This evening we came to the burial ground of Sergeant Floyd . . . A few minutes afterwards, before coming to Floyd's Creek, we started several Turkey-cocks from their roost, and had we been on shore could have accounted for more than one of them." This may be accepted as Audubon's only specific contribution to the ornithology of this county, and furnishes the first record of the Wild Turkey.

Other recent accounts of Audubon's journey through this stretch of river country have been given by Fred J. Pierce (1936) and Professor O. A. Stevens (1943).*

COLLECTIONS OF DR. F. V. HAYDEN, 1856

In the Ninth Volume of the Pacific Railroad Reports (1858) by Spencer F. Baird, John Cassin, and George N. Lawrence we find the records of eight species of birds collected by Dr. F. V. Hayden in 1856

*An error in date must be here corrected. In the "Reminiscences of John H. Charles" (Garver, 1906, p. 54) the statement is made that, "In the fall of 1868 or 1869 I met Audubon as he came down the river, returning east after an expedition to Montana." Of course, Audubon's journey was made in 1843, when there may have been an Indian settlement, but no white settlement, in the present Sioux City area. Mr. Charles came to Sioux City in 1856, and Audubon died in 1851.

while on an "Exploration of the Upper Missouri and Yellowstone," under Lieut G. K. Warren. These species were: Passenger Pigeon, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Black and White Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Redstart, and Savannah Sparrow. These may be considered as initial records for Woodbury County. The two male Passenger Pigeons are unique, and are no doubt the only authentic records for northwestern Iowa. All the specimens here listed are credited to the "Mouth of the Big Sioux," and were collected on given dates during the last week in April or first week in May. The Big Sioux River is the boundary between Iowa and South Dakota. On the basis of geography alone we might be in doubt as to whether these specimens were collected on Iowa or Dakota soil. However, there is less doubt when we take into account the ecological conditions. The Dakota side of the river is low and is often inundated by the Missouri River. Its forests consist almost entirely of sapling willows, and there is no indication that it has ever been otherwise. In April and May these lowlands could be very wet and uninviting to the collector. On the other hand, the Iowa side is somewhat higher, being at the base of the high loess bluffs; and is, and has been, covered with a heavy stand of timber and underbrush. It would, therefore, be far more inviting and accessible to the pedestrian and collector. There is little doubt that these early voyagers camped on the narrow stretch of land between the Big Sioux River and the hills. It is with little hesitation, therefore, that we claim all these bird records for Woodbury County, Iowa, with the possible exception of the Long-billed Marsh Wren, which is listed as collected at the "Mouth Big Sioux, Neb." The mouth of the Big Sioux River is separated from Nebraska by the broad Missouri River, which at this season is likely to be high and swift, with more danger to a man in a canoe or skiff than he is likely to risk for a few bird skins. And since four of the other specimens were collected on the same date on the north side of the river it is probable that the Marsh Wren was also.

SAMUEL AUGHEY

Perhaps the next bird work, in chronological order, was that of Samuel Aughey (1878). This paper was primarily a study of the role of birds as destroyers of insects—especially "grasshoppers." But it served also as a list of birds known to occur in Nebraska. About 90 species, of the more than 200 listed, were credited to Dakota County, Nebraska, which is adjacent to Woodbury County, Iowa, but across the Missouri River. Only one Iowa record is found in this paper, namely, the Red-breasted Nuthatch, for Woodbury County in June, 1865—a date which seems almost improbable at this time. The field work for this paper covered 14 years, from 1864 to 1877, inclusive, and may be considered a pioneer bird list for this region.

II. The Talbot Period, 1880-1889

DANIEL HECTOR TALBOT, 1850-1911

A dominant figure in the second arbitrarily defined period in Sioux City ornithological history was D. H. Talbot. Mr. Talbot was born on June 17, 1850, at Iowa City, and died on December 26, 1911, at Sioux City. While a youth in Iowa City Mr. Talbot looked with great admiration upon the State University, and, no doubt, longed for an opportunity to obtain an education there; but this was denied him. His father wished him to study law, but he desired to become a doctor—"not for the purpose of practice, but to prepare myself for the study of the intricacies of Nature."

During his boyhood in Iowa City he learned something about the brick-making trade from his father, who also was a teacher and demagogue. At the age of 20 years D. H. Talbot was working in a brick-

yard in Missouri. While there he became sick, and was advised to go north. Leaving St. Louis by steamboat, he arrived at Sioux City in September, 1870. For some time he worked at Green's brickyard, probably at Riverside, where he resided throughout the later years of his life. A year or two later he was employed by John D. Cameron, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to haul freight between Sioux Falls and Sioux City. At first he was a common workman, but soon he was advanced to Mr. Cameron's offices in Sioux Falls. (Guernsey, 1936, and Lowry, 1937.)

Mr. Talbot's fortune was made by buying and selling Government land scrip, which he began to do about 1876. This business began to decline about 1882; but during the preceding six years he made considerable money. Before the Civil War the Government had a plan by which citizens could homestead land in the west. But claimants were



DANIEL HECTOR TALBOT,

date unknown but said to be a good likeness at the time of his death. (Photograph by courtesy of the Sioux City Journal).

required to live on the land for five years in order to complete their title. After the war the Government allowed soldiers to count their military service as satisfying an equal length of time in proving their claim to land. The usual allotment was 160 acres, but where a soldier took less than that amount the Government gave land scrip for the difference. The soldier could then trade or sell his scrip for a better piece of farming land, or timber land, or ore-bearing land, or for cash.

Soon after Talbot had become well established in this land scrip business, the Government prohibited all brokerage in the scrip. This would have put Talbot out of business had he not possessed the ingenuity to invent an entirely legal method of circumvention. This method was the power of attorney, not for a single deal only, but for

all subsequent deals on the same scrip or property. Talbot paid the veteran for the land scrip, and incidentally the power of attorney went with it. Talbot then entered his client's name for certain land open for entry. When the warrant for the land was returned in the client's name by the Government, Talbot was able to sell it through the power of attorney, which he still held, and often at very good profit. Talbot's knowledge of the land still open for entry was remarkably comprehensive, more detailed than was that of most of the land agents. He knew something about the quality of soil, whether there was timber, or ore, or building stone, or other natural resources on the premises. Thus he could get good property with his power of attorney, and sell to advantage. Talbot had good buying connections throughout the mid-western states, wherever he could find a soldier who was entitled to land. To make these contacts he used circulars by mail, newspaper advertising, and bank connections. When it came to selling he had customers as far away as California and other parts of the Pacific Coast. And it has been said that one of his biggest customers was the Milwaukee Railroad in South Dakota.

Mr. Talbot invested a considerable part of his fortune in real estate, most of which lay on the hills bordering the Iowa side of the Big Sioux River, and including the greater part of the present area of Stone Park. The writer has a map which shows these land holdings in July, 1892. The areas are disconnected, but roughly aggregate between nine and ten full sections. In one document Mr. Talbot claimed 2,376 and 89/100 acres, which was not necessarily his total holding.

It was Mr. Talbot's expressed intention to donate certain parts of these lands to Sioux City for a public park. But his property fell into other hands, thus frustrating Mr. Talbot's plans. He also cherished the ambition to use part of his fortune in establishing a home for boys who had been ill-treated by their parents. This he would undoubtedly have done if adversity had not befallen him in the Panic of 1893.

We do not know just what aroused Mr. Talbot's interest in scientific matters, but it was probably innate. His activities in this direction were most energetic in the 1880's. He was a member of the American Ornithologists' Union from 1885 to 1896. His scientific work naturally falls under two heads, viz., the "scientific farm", and the expeditions in which he participated.

The "scientific farm", or Talbot's Farm, was located on property which now constitutes the greater part of Stone Park. Here, at the head of a big hollow, were placed the buildings, including a large barn and a commodious building, 22 x 36 feet, for the library and collections. Mr. Talbot planned this library building as a fire-proof structure by building a "solid frame filled with cement" with an outside covering of corrugated iron. Around the inside of this room he built a gallery nine feet from the floor. This library contained over 4,000 volumes, including the works of Audubon and Wilson. Close to this library was the one-story, 7-room house, in which, in later years at least, lived the farm custodian, R. M. Ricketts. This layout is still well remembered by many Sioux Cityans who visited Talbot's Farm in those early days—some who went to study natural history, and many more who went to picnic or dance the light fantastic.

How much serious farming was done by Mr. Talbot the writer does not know. It is pretty hilly country. But in his letter in *Colman's Rural World* (January 9, 1890) he voiced a vigorous protest on the labor situation, and made the remark, "Suppose I start from the farm in the morning with a wagon-load of corn, a wagon-load of hay, and fifty head of cattle . . .," which would suggest that it was not all experimental work.

His experimental breeding was of the most interest. One much-publicized experiment was the crossing of a bison bull to a domestic cow, with several successful issues. A cross between Jersey and East

Indian, or Sacred, cattle was also tried. Mr. Talbot also had a herd of solid-hoofed hogs, which the writer can remember having seen as late as 1912 or 1913. These "mule-footed" pigs were picked up by Mr. Talbot on his Texas trip in 1885. A large herd of them had been raised by a widow farmer who lived on Padre Island.

Among his ducks there appeared a peculiarly deformed crest in both male and female, which he allowed to mate. There was also another pair with an abnormally crooked tail, and these were mated.

Another breeding experiment was the attempt to secure a race of corn which would produce an ear of corn without pollination. Three generations of such corn were reported to have been obtained, but the character is "as yet not actually specific." This was the nature of the work which led the public to use the term "experimental farm." Unfortunately, Mr. Talbot never published any account of his breeding experiments; possibly because he did not feel that enough results had been obtained. And in such of his papers and journals as have come to the attention of this writer only fragmentary notes have been recorded. A few notes on the successive litters of the solid-hoofed hogs might be of interest to a geneticist.

Mr. Talbot participated in several rather extensive expeditions, either in company with others or independently. Those we know of are as follows:

1. To Rawlins, Wyoming, with a party of scientific men to study the total eclipse of the sun in 1878.
2. Down the Arkansas River in the spring of 1882 for the purpose of collecting birds.
3. To Labrador in the summer of 1882 for bird collecting.
4. To Yellowstone Park, by rail and coach in the summer of 1883.
5. To the sandhill country of central Nebraska, by wagon, in the fall of 1884, for bird collecting—for geese especially.
6. To the gulf coast of Texas, for four or five months in the winter of 1885, for collecting birds, reptiles, insects, etc. All these trips, excepting the one for the eclipse, were organized and financed by Mr. Talbot.

In July, 1878, Mr. Talbot was a member of a party of distinguished scientific men who completed an expedition to Rawlins, Wyoming, for the purpose of making observations on a total eclipse of the sun. This party included Prof. George F. Barker, physicist, of the University of Pennsylvania; Sir Joseph Norman Lockyer, astronomer, of England; Prof. Henry Draper, spectroscopist, of the University of New York; Thomas A. Edison; and others. An account of this expedition was given in the *Sioux City Journal* for February 8, 1914.

In the early spring of 1882, Mr. Talbot made a collecting trip down the Arkansas River, from Muskogee, Indian Territory, to Little Rock, Arkansas. This trip was made alone except for such helpers as he hired along the way, to the number of six for most of the trip. He went from Sioux City to the Indian Territory, where he had boats built and laid in supplies. After hiring several men, they started down the Arkansas River for a trip that lasted about two months (February 10 from Sioux City to April 5 at Sioux City). Birds were collected at every opportunity. The diary does not tell how many were collected altogether; but on one day Parker and Kelley skinned 85 birds.

The trip to Labrador was made in the summer of 1882. Mr. Talbot left Sioux City on July 3, having previously shipped his dog, Barney*, and other effects. His journal shows that it took 26½ hours to reach Chicago. On July 13 he embarked from Boston on the schooner "Polar Star". On July 24 he visited Bird Rock, or as near to it as he could get in a small boat. He collected 19 Gannets, shooting all but one himself. The next day he did not feel well, but he had these Gannets to skin. After dinner he skinned two—"all I intend to," he wrote.

*The date of the death of this faithful dog, who had accompanied his master on most of these field trips, was carefully recorded by Mr. Talbot as September 10, 1889.

They ran into a storm that day, with waves 20 feet high. Only Talbot and the Mate remained on deck; the Captain and crew went below. Talbot counted the waves, and found that they came in series of seven, of which the first, second, and seventh were the larger. Later in this day (the 25th) Talbot, with some of the boat's crew, went ashore at Bonnie Esperance, and did some collecting.

On the 30th they reached Parokeet Island, where Talbot collected 40 birds. Later he shot 34 more, "making a total for the hour of 50 paroquets, including some seven razor-billed auks, and one foolish guillemot." On the 31st he writes that he shot 108 Puffins and one Razor-billed Auk. These few details are mentioned merely to indicate that Talbot was a collector of the old school.

The trip to Yellowstone Park was made by train and stage-coach during the months of June and July of 1883. The diary closes abruptly on July 18, and we can not be sure that he went all the way to California, as planned. But elsewhere in his papers he speaks of being on the Pacific Coast; and it is probable that his Yellowstone trip was extended at this time. He was alone in this trip, although E. H. Stone of Sioux City was in the same party much of the time. Apparently no collecting was done on this trip. The diary of this trip contains a bit of philosophy on the subject of talented young women who marry and follow husbands to obscure places. Having met a Sioux City acquaintance in some small town along the way, he wrote: "There are too many women whose only desire seems to be to become the wife of some one, and further they are carried away or held in bondage by the hallucination of duty to the husband rather than duty to themselves."

From August 15 to the middle of November, 1884, a rather successful collecting trip was made by wagon to the Sandhill Region of Nebraska. Practically all supplies, food, shelter, and ammunition had to be carried from the start. The expedition was chiefly for large birds, geese, ducks, and cranes. Talbot's own shooting score for ten successive November days was: Got 31 geese and 5 ducks; got 41 geese on river; got 36 geese and 3 ducks; got 26 geese and one white crane; got 54 geese; got 11 geese; got 24 geese; got 25 geese and 2 sandhill cranes; got 42 geese; got 14 geese. The results of this trip undoubtedly provided the bulk of the magnificent series of wild goose skins which went to the State University of Iowa.

The Texas trip was made by way of Chicago, New Orleans, and Houston by train; to Galveston and Indianola by steamboat; thence to Corpus Christi by sailboat, with many detours into bays and lagoons. This trip covered a longer period of time than any of the others, and his journals are much more complete.

Talbot left Sioux City on January 28, 1885, with two companions to act as hunters and skinners. They spent two or three days in New Orleans seeing the sights. In the old French Market Talbot reported seeing, "snow geese, small black geese (Hutchin's ?), ducks of various kinds, glossy and red ibises, gallinules, coots, herons, snipes, blackbirds, robins, sparrows, etc." How many of these birds would be found in the markets of today? He also mentions seeing an Ivory-billed Woodpecker within five miles of New Orleans on January 31, 1885.

On March 17 Talbot records that one of his men shot a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and adds that, "this is the first one I have seen excepting the one shot near Sioux City some years ago, and now in the possession of Mrs. Lynch."

Talbot went ashore on March 22 and "got the Carrion Crow's eggs. I shot the bird as she rose from the nest." But on dissection on the following day this bird proved to be a male. Four days earlier when Talbot first saw this nest he shot the bird that flew from it, but left the eggs for a second visit. He now concluded that the first bird was the female. It seemed clear to him, therefore, that the male Black

Vulture had taken over the function of incubation. "The nest was nothing but a bare place on the oyster shells under a small prickly pear."

On March 23 he "saw a flock of Sickle-billed Curlews [*Numenius americanus*] at least three-quarters of a mile in length and perhaps 50 yards in width. It was a fine sight."

On April 6, 1885, Talbot wrote in his journal that he was shipping "some 900 bird skins" to Sioux City. "This is a very low count for the time we have been out and the money expended." Over a month's collecting was done after this date.

Mr. Talbot himself was not a bad shot. He tells of getting a pair of Reddish Egrets. "I made a good shot as they came toward the boat and dropped one; then as the other flew over the boat I waited until he was free from the rigging and dropped him with the other barrel."

While in Corpus Christi Mr. Talbot met John M. Priour, the collector and guide whose biography appeared in the *Wilson Bulletin* for December, 1936. In his journal of March 29, 1885, Talbot wrote: "Mr. Jack or John Priour is a strange being, and known here as a hunter. He has been out with nearly all the bird men who have come to Texas. Sennett was the first one. He then went with Goss of Wisconsin, also Goss of Kansas; and Benners of Pennsylvania."

In one of Talbot's journals following the Texas trip we find this entry under date of September 8, 1885: "Rec'd from John Priour a box containing a turtle; three chaparral cocks, or Road-runners; 1 large and 1 small lizard." So, it is evident that Talbot had some business with Mr. Priour, though the records do not show that they were in the field together. At one time on this collecting jaunt Talbot had six men working for him full time; and he had one, sometimes two, sailboats chartered after he arrived at the coast. The reason for the second boat was that the larger boat, therefore the most desirable one, had an undependable captain.

Talbot must have been one of the early naturalists to use a tagging method on animals. On his Texas trip in 1885 his men caught a 'possum, to whose left front leg they attached a tag labeled, "No. 7, D. H. Talbot, Sioux City, Iowa." The kind of tag was not mentioned in this case, but it was his custom to use metal tags on his specimens. The animal was then turned loose on a small island. But not much was learned, for on the following day the 'possum was found dead about 30 yards from where it had been liberated—probably because of too rough handling by the men.

Throughout the period of his activity he was constantly adding to his collection of natural history specimens, chiefly birds. Most of the time he had collectors engaged to bring their materials to him. His records are full of such business deals, the following for instance. On April 9, 1887, Mr. Talbot paid \$2.50 each for five white [Whooping] cranes, and \$1.00 each for ten Sandhill Cranes; and agreed to pay \$2.00 apiece for all white cranes over a dozen.

Talbot's collection of birds was all in the form of skins, probably no mounted specimens. We know very little about the number of specimens; but one memorandum among his papers stated that the number of birds and other animals numbered between 7,000 and 8,000.

His very large library containing two sets of Audubon's "The Birds of America," Wilson's "American Ornithology," and many other now rare volumes, and his entire collection of bird skins, were given to the State University of Iowa. The library contained over 4,000 pieces. It is related that he shipped these properties rather hurriedly at the time the judgment was to be issued against him. The amount of the judgment was \$94,578.90; and the date of issuance was December 23, 1893. A note in *The Auk* (VIII, 1891, page 124) states that the collection of specimens was being shipped to the University at that time, 1891; but that the library would be retained until his death.

Several scientific papers based on the Talbot collections have been published since the material was deposited in the University of Iowa. The first one was prepared by Frank Russel (1892) and was based on an examination of the original materials very shortly after they had been received. This paper was not published, but is available in manuscript form in the Zoology Department of the University.

A paper by Philip A. DuMont (1933) is based on 28 specimens of the Sandhill and Little Brown Cranes, collected in northwestern Iowa and Nebraska. Another paper by Philip A. DuMont and Myron H. Swenk (1934) states that the Talbot collection contained 593 specimens of the Canada Goose from the Mississippi Valley, which probably comprised "the largest series of this type ever assembled in a single region." This paper also quotes the Russel paper of 1892 to the effect that the Talbot collections contained 250 specimens of Meadowlarks; 100 specimens of Bob-whites; 50 specimens of the Snowy Owl; 25 specimens of the Man-o'-war-bird from Texas. These figures merely convey an idea of the extensive scale of Mr. Talbot's operations.

The preceding paper was followed by one by Swenk and DuMont (1935) which gave the weights of 356 geese from the Talbot collection. This tabulation showed that the male geese varied in weight from 3.25 to 13 pounds; the females varied from 4 to 10 pounds. The greatest number of geese weighed 5.50 pounds, of which 18 were females, 16 were males, and 10 were not sexed.

The writer has been able to collect a bibliography of seven short scientific communications from Mr. Talbot to *The Auk* and the *American Naturalist* from 1882 to 1902. These citations are given in full at the end of this paper. Mr. Talbot is also credited with having furnished more than 50 locality notes for Prof. Bruner's "Some notes on Nebraska birds", published in 1896.

Mention may also be made of a venture in publication by Mr. Talbot. I have seen only one copy of this monthly magazine, established in 1880, and called *The Cosmopolite*. This issue is Volume I, No. 10, April 1880, and has 16 pages. It is impossible to determine from its face just what part Mr. Talbot had in its production. However, I have seen letters addressed to Mr. Talbot as editor; and there can be little doubt that he financed it.

It is not easy to evaluate the work of Mr. Talbot. He was a shrewd business man in building up a considerable fortune; but others were shrewder in the end. He had a strong, innate tendency toward natural history; but he was unable to obtain the necessary training to bring his own efforts to fruition. Nevertheless, he did the best he could and gathered together a great quantity of natural history material, which, through others, has been a contribution to science. Perhaps his error was in failure to associate with himself a younger and sufficiently trained man. The amount of money which he expended would have made this possible. Some have said that his mistake was in trying to combine a business career with a scientific career. But other men have successfully made this combination. For example, Dr. Bryant Walker in conchology and Dr. Prentiss Baldwin in ornithology.

Talbot's journals reveal that he had a broad knowledge of the birds in the regions which he visited. This could have been obtained only by diligent study. His high motives and intended generosity are indicated by the plans he had for the disposition of his fortune. Talbot was a man of principle and strong character. On his Texas trip he condemned, in his diary, one of his hired men for assailing the informer on a thief. Mr. Talbot took the position that the informer was the honest man. It is evident that he was a man of clear vision and imagination. In some respects at least he must have been a man of good executive ability. But life is competitive.

ALEXANDER SCOUGALE, 1842-1915

Alexander Scougale is acknowledged by W. W. Cooke in his "Report on Bird Migration in the Mississippi Valley" (1888, page 44) as an ornithological observer at Sioux City in 1885. The writer has been unable to discover just what notes he may have contributed to Prof. Cooke's Report.

Mr. Scougale was born in Chicago in 1842, and reared in Bedford, Michigan. His early life was spent in that virgin country, where, as a boy he hunted and fished, and familiarized himself with the vegetation and wildlife of all kinds. He "knew the names of the birds, the weeds, and grasses." The son reports by letter that his father "studied Wilson's Ornithology, and I still have the recollection of that book in my boyhood home. He reported the migration of birds for the Smithsonian Institution and for *Forest and Stream*, and was the author of several articles that appeared in that publication from time to time. Just how many of these articles he wrote I do not know, but I remember having read one on the winter habits of the Robin in Sioux City."

By vocation Mr. Scougale was a blacksmith and was employed in the St. Paul Railway shops; by avocation he was a taxidermist. He was an expert marksman with the rifle and the shotgun. He could tan skins and mount birds in their natural postures. It is possible that there may still remain in Sioux City some of the specimens which he mounted. The son states that the father "was always making notes on the migration of birds, and discharged the duty of that gratuitous labor with fidelity." Alexander Scougale died in Seattle about 1915.

CHARLES H. WELLS, 1855-1926

Charles H. Wells was a telegraph operator on the Sioux City and Pacific Railroad, and was located in Sioux City from 1870 to 1875. From 1887 to 1890 he was associated with his brothers in a coal business, also in Sioux City. In 1893 he went to Montana and engaged in taxidermy work, chiefly on the heads of big game.

There is, or at least was, a case of mounted birds in the museum of the Sioux City Academy of Science which had been put up by Mr. Wells in the years 1888-1889. This case contained about 22 specimens obtained from various states. About 15 of the specimens were collected by Mr. Wells in Woodbury County, Iowa. Included among these were a Barred Owl, Black-crowned Night Heron, Prairie Chicken, Bobwhite, several ducks, and a small goose which he called Hutchins's. The Pileated Woodpecker in the case was collected on the Dakota side of the Big Sioux River in the fall of 1888. In this connection we may be reminded that when Audubon came down the Missouri River in 1843, and passed the Big Sioux River on October 1, he recorded in his journal for that day that he had heard the Pileated Woodpecker (Audubon, 1897). The specimen of the Carolina Paroquet in the same case was not collected in the Mississippi Valley. Mr. Wells was born in 1855 at Huntley, Illinois, and died at Boone, Iowa, in 1926.

ALFRED RUSSELL WALLACE, 1823-1913

Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace made a 10-months' tour of the United States (from October 23, 1886, to August 12, 1887), passing from Boston and Washington across the continent to California and returning to Quebec by way of Canada. On his western journey he lectured at Cincinnati, and then, by way of Kansas City, visited Sioux City. While here he delivered three lectures before the Scientific Association (forerunner of the Academy of Science):

May 2, 1887, Monday. On Darwinism.

May 3, 1887, Tuesday. Origin and uses of color in animals.

May 4, 1887, Wednesday. Oceanic Islands.

These subjects were the ones to which Mr. Wallace had given most of his scientific attention.

Mr. Wallace arrived in Sioux City on Saturday, April 30, and was met by D. H. Talbot, who had been most instrumental in bringing him to Sioux City. While here Mr. Wallace was a guest in the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Stone. On Sunday Dr. Wallace, J. C. C. Hoskins, John H. Charles, Judge and Miss Wakefield, went out to Mr. Talbot's "Experimental Farm." Dr. Wallace was surprised to learn that the farm had been running only a little over a year and a half. At this time the farm contained "six fine American bison, 12 elks, an East Indian Zebu, a drove of solid-hoofed pigs, a flock of four-horned sheep, hybrids of zebu and cattle, a fine trotting colt, wolves, foxes, rabbits, wild geese, and other aquatic birds, pigeons, rattlesnakes, and other curious birds and reptiles." (Wallace, 1905, II, p. 148).

Mr. Wallace also tells of his inspection of the drawings in oil of native wild flowers by Miss Bandusia Wakefield, of Sioux City, and pronounced them "almost equal to those of Miss North at Kew."

The only ornithological note recorded by Dr. Wallace was in connection with his trip from Council Bluffs to Sioux City. He writes (1905, II, page 147) of having seen from the train window an "abundance of water-birds, especially thousands of grebes, scuttling off from the banks as the train passed, leaving long trails on the water." The present writer has made this same train journey many times at all seasons of the year, and within 20 years after Dr. Wallace made his trip. In the spring of the year he has seen "thousands" of American Coots scrambling away as the train passed, just as Dr. Wallace described, especially in the vicinity of Modale and Mondamin in Harrison County. There is no doubt in this writer's mind that the birds which Dr. Wallace saw were Coots, mixed, perhaps with some ducks, rather than grebes.

While in Sioux City Dr. Wallace evidently enjoyed his contacts with the local scientific men, and became interested in the work they were doing. He was more or less perturbed, however, by his visit to the "pork-curing establishment," where he was compelled to walk along "narrow planks and ladders slippery with blood and water, and in the warm, close, reeking atmosphere." This was more of an experience than Mr. Wallace's tender sensibilities could bear.

He took his departure on Thursday, after a six-day visit, and after exchanging photographs with Mr. Talbot.

III. The Rich Period, 1889-1913

GUY CYRUS RICH, 1861-

Dr. Guy C. Rich was the dominant personality in the field of ornithology in Sioux City during a period from 1889 to about 1913—almost a quarter of a century. He was born on July 26, 1861, at Schuylerville, New York. In his boyhood he began his ornithological career as an egg collector; but he never took more than one egg from the same nest. Later he collected birds as well, and mounted them. Thus he accumulated a fairly large collection of birds and their eggs, mostly taken in Saratoga County. These specimens were left with the high school of his home town when he left that part of the country.

He was graduated at the Saratoga Springs High School in 1880, and at the Pennsylvania College of Dental Surgery (Philadelphia) in 1883, with the degree of D.D.S. He then entered the Jefferson Medical College and received the degree of M.D. in 1885. Two years were spent as an interne in the Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, where he finished in the spring of 1888. In the fall of that year he went to Sioux City, Iowa, where he established a medical practice. He and Mrs. Rich spent the winters of 1910-1912 in California, and moved there permanently in 1912.



DR. GUY C. RICH
about 1900, as a practicing physician in Sioux City.

After settling in Sioux City, he continued his interest in birds as his professional duties permitted; and this interest has continued throughout his long life—he passed his 82d birthday in 1943. During his residence in California he has taken an active part in the affairs of the Cooper Ornithological Club, and has served on the Board of Managers of that organization.

During his 24 years of residence in Sioux City he collected a number of rare specimens. Many hunters brought their unusual specimens to Dr. Rich for identification and preservation. Among those who assisted Dr. Rich in this way were Eddie Kirk, Louis Hills, Stanley Hills, Harvey H. Hawman, and Charles Sangster. Among the specimens of particular interest were the American Eider, the Glossy Ibis, and the Mourning Warbler. The eider was listed by Anderson (1907), by Bent (1925), and by DuMont (1934a) as *Somateria m. dresseri*. Later, DuMont (1934c) diagnosed the specimen as the Pacific Eider (*S. v-nigra*). The ibis was reported as *P. autumnalis* (*=falcinellus*); but it was an immature bird, and, as usual, there is difficulty in excluding *P. guarauna*. The Mourning Warbler has proved to be a fairly frequent migrant.

At the time of Dr. Rich's departure from Sioux City, he placed his entire collection as a loan in the museum of the Sioux City Academy of Science. A few of these specimens were sent to him in California in 1920, but the rest are believed to be still in Sioux City.

Through the years, from 1899 to 1910 inclusive, Dr. Rich compiled very full migration reports for the U. S. Biological Survey. Copies of these reports are in Sioux City. Dr. Rich kept voluminous and accurate

records of his observations on bird life. His notebooks included dates and locality records of eggs collected. Later he made skins of specimens collected and made drawings of the head and bill, as was the vogue in those days, and measurements of the body. He was deliberate in identifying a strange bird. Thus he was carefully scientific in his attitude. With all this he was tender and sympathetic toward man and beast. This aspect of his nature can be well illustrated by an excerpt from a letter to this writer in 1915. After telling of feeding the birds in his yard, he wrote: "Thursday I found a poor sick Anthony Towhee. He soon fell from the tree where I placed him, and died. I made a skin of him. Poor little brown bird!"

Dr. Rich disliked to make statements from memory. He preferred to depend on his notebook records. He wrote in one letter that, "A person is never so sure as when he is mistaken."

Dr. Rich was a member of the Iowa Ornithological Association from 1895 to its disbandment in 1898. His membership in the Cooper Ornithological Club has continued from 1911 to date; and in the Wilson Ornithological Club from 1914 to recent years.

In the days of his outdoor activity Dr. Rich was a delightful companion in the field. As an ornithologist he was primarily a field man, and had acquired a broad experience before he came to Sioux City. He was meticulously careful and conscientious in his own field identifications, but was not hard-boiled toward beginners. His manner might be described as gentle and philosophical. This temperament enabled him to unconsciously play the role of mentor and friend to more than one neophyte who came under his influence. The several people who enjoyed the privilege of his companionship and tutelage will always remember him with generous gratitude. This sketch has been difficult to write in places, because Dr. Rich still lives in Hollywood, and the biographer should avoid eulogy.

AXEL JOHN ANDERSON, 1869-1923

A. J. Anderson was a well-known taxidermist in Sioux City for many years. He was born on February 8, 1869, at Hjortshog, near Helsingborg, Sweden.* He died at Sioux City, Iowa, on November 4, 1923.

Anderson left Sweden for the United States in December, 1879, and arrived at New York two weeks before Christmas. From there he went direct to Alta, Iowa. After remaining there two years he went with his parents to Des Moines, in April, 1882. He lived in Des Moines for about three years and came to Sioux City in September, 1885, at about the age of 15 years. The remainder of his life was spent in this city.

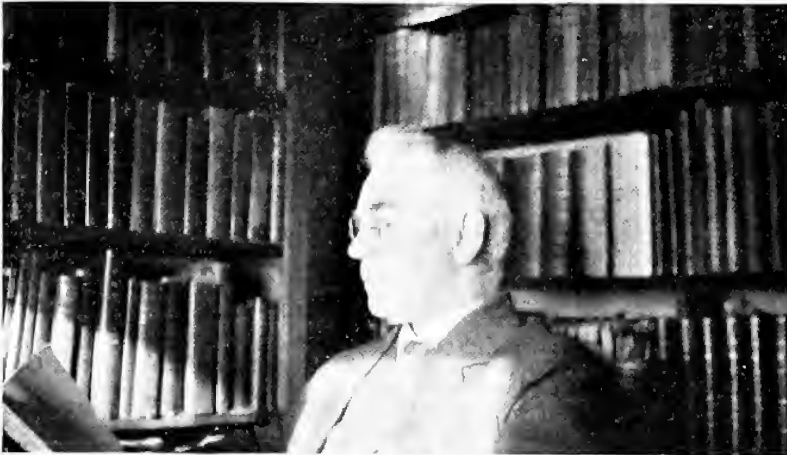
All children in the Province of Sköne were required to start school at the age of six. So Anderson had about three years of schooling in Sweden. He went to school during the two winters at Alta, and also attended school in Des Moines until he was 14 years of age. Mr. Anderson occasionally spoke of his acquaintance with a taxidermist in Des Moines named Johnson (no doubt A. I. Johnson, a member of the Iowa Ornithological Association). He had also seen some mounted birds in the Capitol at Des Moines, and became interested.

Anderson's method on such specimens as he could get was to cut off the head and stuff the body with salt for preservation. A BB shot was placed under each eye to keep it open until the skin became dry; then he would remove the shot and insert a black glass-headed pin obtained at dry-goods stores.

*At the time of his death the newspapers reported that he was born in Denmark on February 8, 1864, and that he came to America in 1873. These dates are at variance with the ones which I have given. I can only say that I received my information from Mr. Anderson directly, and made written notes at the time. During that conversation he made some explanation of the confusion between Denmark and Sweden as his birthplace. It was in some way related to his immigration or naturalization papers. But he was quite clear and emphatic on the fact that Sweden was his native country.

Axel's father had a rifle which he used for killing rats. The father would not allow Axel to use this gun when alone, but went with him on short trips for collecting such small birds as sparrows. His father would not allow Axel to kill any Bluebirds or Robins or other "pretty birds" for practice.

Axel's real start in taxidermy work came with the advent of a stranded museum taxidermist from Scotland. Anderson was collecting butterflies at this time and the Scotchman became interested in him. He showed Anderson how to clean and mount the entire bird in the approved fashion of the time. Anderson's first specimen under instruction was a crossbill, which seemed to be especially difficult to handle. After this he worked night after night on all the birds he could get hold of. The Scotchman established a shop in a shed on the Anderson premises, and remained for two years at his trade. During this time Axel had the opportunity to learn all that the professional taxidermist could teach him.



A. J. ANDERSON, IN 1922
Photographed by T. C. Stephens

On August 25, 1900, Mr. Anderson was married to Selma Carlson. They had two children, both of whom died young.

In June 1904 Mr. Anderson made a trip to Chase Lake, in North Dakota, where he found breeding the White Pelican, the Ring-billed Gull, and a larger gull which he thought to be *L. argentatus*, but which he may not have distinguished from *L. californiens*. Eggs were collected of all species found, some of which were given to Dr. Rich, and by him left in the museum of the Sioux City Academy of Science.

Mr. Anderson's ornithological work in Sioux City covered a period of about 35 years. He built up a very large collection of mounted birds, and for the most part these specimens were collected locally; practically all of them carried the original label showing the date and locality. In addition to these specimens of his "private" collection, he kept a complete record of the hundreds of specimens sent to him for mounting, mostly trophies for sportsmen. There can be no doubt that Mr. Anderson's collection of birds was the largest in northwestern Iowa. He had a great many mounted mammals, too. He probably did not know himself just how many mounted specimens he had, for they were stored in boxes which were not often taken from storage, and probably never all at one time. He used to take much pride in bringing a few boxes from the attic to exhibit to some interested caller.

During his lifetime Mr. Anderson put a price of \$5,000 on his entire collection, but no Sioux City philanthropist could be found at that time to buy the collection. It finally went to the Pettigrew Museum in Sioux Falls at a much lower figure.

About 1915 Mr. Anderson acquired a small Ford truck, which he called a "scooter," because it scooted over rough roads or through marshy country, almost wherever a mud hen could wade. The writer can recall many pleasant field trips in all directions in this modern conveyance. Mr. Anderson also used this car as a truck for delivery of mounted specimens to customers and as a family car.

Mr. Anderson was not a writer. But through the pen of others many of his discoveries have been permanently recorded. Of course, many of his good records never reached publication. And it was his wish that all his notebooks and ledgers should be burned at his death, and no doubt they were. He had a good working library on birds and mammals, and was well informed on the wildlife of the region in which he lived.

During the hunting season he made a comfortable living from his taxidermy work, for material came to him from neighboring towns and from as far away as Montana and North Dakota. But when this work was slack he followed the trade of carpentry. In the later years of his life he was somewhat annoyed at the decrease in the number of specimens sent to him for mounting. But this was due to the enactment of more stringent laws protecting game, and to the outlawing of hunting wildfowl in the spring. Of course it was inevitable that these new laws on game protection should practically put the independent taxidermist out of business.

Mr. Anderson was an agreeable companion in the field, and a close observer of wildlife at all times.

THE BROWN BROTHERS

Clive and Lloyd Brown did some very valuable collecting during the years from 1899 to 1902, inclusive. At the outset of their work Clive was 14 years old, and Lloyd was ten.

Clive Francis Brown was born on April 24, 1885, in Silverton, Colorado. He was graduated from Central High School in Sioux City in 1902. Lloyd Kent Brown was born on January 13, 1889, in Sioux City, Iowa, and was graduated from Central High School in 1906. Both boys were sons of Dr. Robert H. Brown, a practicing physician, who was also interested in outdoor life. As a young man in Wisconsin and Colorado, Dr. Brown made collections of birds. When his sons became interested he taught them how to make skins. While in practice in Sioux City Dr. Brown had his office in the Toy Bank Building, where Dr. Rich's office was also located. These two men became acquainted and found a common interest in their love of nature. It then came about that they spent much of their recreation time in the fields, taking the boys along. They were also often joined by J. Herbert Quick, the author, and his son Edward.

These men would hitch up the old surrey and drive out into the country south of Morningside. The river bottoms in those days had not been extensively drained, and there was much open water in the spring which attracted wild fowl in great numbers. Among the favorite places which they visited regularly were the Barlow Hall region, Brown's Lake, Thompson's Grove (later known as the "South Ravine" and now a city park), and along the Missouri River south of the Floyd Monument, which had, perhaps, not been erected at the beginning of their trips.

Clive Brown has related how they collected their first 50 birds with an air gun. As a reward for this achievement their father bought them a shotgun.

At the close of their work in Sioux City they had a collection of about 175 bird skins, most of which had been collected in Sioux City. Clive Brown has written me that he considers his best discoveries to be the Red-shafted Flicker, the hybrid Flicker, and the Red-breasted Nuthatch; he saw a Mockingbird but did not collect it. Lloyd Brown considers his best finds to be the Florida Gallinule, the Semipalmated Sandpiper, the Orange-crowned Warbler, the Great Horned Owl, and the King Rail. From the list of skins, of which I have a copy, I would add to the above species the Philadelphia Vireo (verified by competent authority), the White-eyed Vireo, Nelson's Sparrow, Acadian Owl, Northern Shrike, and the Bartramian Sandpiper—the latter having been collected by J. Herbert Quick. This writer has a list of these skins from Clive Brown, and also an annotated list from Dr. Rich.

At the time of our last correspondence, in 1921, the Brown brothers were operating a stock farm in South Dakota. At that time they still possessed the collection of bird skins, but had, apparently dropped all interest in ornithology. Their interest had become centered in pure-bred cattle.

REV. MANLEY B. TOWNSEND, 1869-1929

Rev. M. B. Townsend played a very active part in local ornithology over a period of about three years. My notes show that I made a field trip to Talbot's Farm (now Stone Park) on May 7, 1909, 4:30 p.m. until dark, with Mr. Townsend and Ira N. Gabrielson. Eleven species were recorded that evening. The book also shows that the same three were at the same place at five o'clock the next morning. Apparently we



THE "SHACK"

a bird-lovers' rendezvous in the woods along the Missouri River below the Floyd Monument. Dr. Guy C. Rich (standing); Prof. E. E. Stacey; and Rev. M. B. Townsend (with axe). Snapshot taken in 1910 by T. C. Stephens.

stayed there all night, but I do not recall the circumstances or the shelter. At any rate, this is the earliest record I have of field work with Mr. Townsend, though many more trips followed. Mr. Townsend was a most congenial and enthusiastic companion, and a discriminating student of birds.

Probably the most interesting field trip I ever took with Mr. Townsend was on May 31, 1909, when he guided Dr. Rich and myself to Talbot's Farm to show us a Turkey Vulture's nest. The nest was located a few hundred yards up the ravine to the north of the old Talbot barn, or perhaps a little beyond the present shelter house. The tree had a circumference of 10 or 12 feet, and was hollow at the top, about 40 feet up. Mr. Townsend climbed the tree with the aid of a rope, and exhibited two eggs from the decayed cavity. The eggs were lowered and photographed. Mr. Townsend later reported this incident in *Bird-Lore* (Townsend, 1914), and stated that the two eggs hatched.

Mr. Townsend was born at New Britain, Connecticut, in 1869. He was graduated from St. Lawrence University in 1902. He came to Sioux City in 1908 as Minister of the Unitarian Church. In 1912 he was called to the church at Attleboro, Massachusetts, and later to Nashua, New Hampshire. While in New Hampshire he served as president of the state Audubon Society. He died on March 1, 1929.

WALTER W. BENNETT

Walter Bennett's ornithological work in Sioux City was most active from about 1910 to about 1925, and perhaps his account belongs more properly in the next or fourth period of history. He did a great deal of field work during the years just mentioned, and developed a high degree of skill in nature photography. His first work was with still pictures, and he accumulated a large collection of beautiful lantern slides, many of which were colored by his own hand. Later he took up motion pictures, and was successful in getting a good sequence of the Prairie Chicken in action.

His first published note was on the Bell's Vireo, and appeared in *Bird-Lore* (Bennett, 1911). This note was expanded into a longer paper which was published in the *Proceedings* of the Iowa Academy of Science (Bennett, 1917). He also reported the Rock Wren in Woodbury County, Iowa (Bennett, 1925a). Together with T. M. Murdoch he reported the Lark Bunting at Sioux City (Bennett, 1925b). In 1931 he compiled a list of the birds of Sioux City, which was printed by the Bird Club. A note on the Magpie in Iowa was published in 1915 (Bennett, 1915). In recent years his work has been on the Pacific Coast.

OTHER WORKERS

Wilmon Newell was a resident of Hull, Sioux County, Iowa, in the early '90's. He was a founder and member of the Iowa Ornithological Association, and published several short articles in the *Iowa Ornithologist*. One paper was on the Bob-white (1897a, page 10), which was considered abundant in northwest Iowa at that time. Another paper gave an account of the nesting of the Prairie Chicken, based on observations in Sioux County (1897b, page 43). A third paper expressed the belief that eventually fossil birds would be found in the deposits around Sioux City (1898, page 5). Mr. Newell attended Iowa State College, and later became the State Entomologist for Georgia.

A. I. Johnson, a taxidermist of Des Moines, did some ornithological work in Sioux County in the early '90's. In 1891 he reported the nesting of a pair of Mockingbirds at Hull, in Sioux County (Johnson, 1891, page 169). Dr. R. M. Anderson in "The Birds of Iowa" (1907) gives Mr. Johnson credit for supplying the locality records of 91 species of birds in Sioux County during 1890-1891. Mr. Johnson was a member of the Iowa Ornithological Association from 1895 to its disbandment in 1898.

George H. Berry, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is credited by Dr. Anderson with furnishing records of 21 species of birds in the vicinity of Hawarden, Sioux County, during two weeks of May and June, 1890.

Jane E. Hamand, of Schaller, Sac County, was an active bird lover of this period, and a member of the Iowa Ornithological Association. We have no record that she published any notes.

Dr. R. M. Anderson's "The Birds of Iowa" (1907) appeared during this period and contained much material on northwestern Iowa, chiefly upon the authority of Dr. Rich.

IV. Period of Organized Bird Study, 1913-

The organization of the Sioux City Bird Club in the fall of 1913 instituted a new era of ornithology in Sioux City, and perhaps the surrounding area. The story of events connected with the early years of the Bird Club, which has now just celebrated its 30th anniversary, has been presented by Mrs. H. M. Bailey (1936 and 1937). Co-operative effort in a matter of this kind functions in two ways. There are those who serve the organization, which develops new workers, keeps the enthusiasm up to par, and sees that the work is carried on. At the same time there are those who do the field work, make new discoveries, and publish their findings. Of the former there are almost too many to name individually. Of the latter group there are not so many, but even here there is a hazard of injustice by omission. However, the following have published, and in some cases extensively, and are deserving of special mention: Messrs. A. R. Abel, A. F. Allen, W. D. Crabb, A. B. Darling, W. J. Hayward, Jean L. Laffoon, Chas. J. Spiker, T. C. Stephens, B. F. Stiles, Wm. Youngworth, and Mrs. Marie Dales, not to mention a great many more who have contributed through the publication of the various seasonal censuses. This is the lasting work of the Club—to place on permanent record what has been discovered. May that work continue. And may we all take continued pride in our historical background. May we never publish an erroneous identification!

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- 1884. Night herons and rails in Dakota. Auk, I, 1884, pp. 96-97. (A record of seven Black-crowned Night Herons shot at Wall Lake, in Minnehaha County, in September, 1883, out of 18 or 20 seen. Many Sora Rails were seen on the Vermillion River bottoms in September 1883. Four King Rails were seen, one shot.
- 1884b. Singular friendship between two caged birds. Amer. Nat., XVII, 1884, pp. 949-951. (Behavior of caged birds indicating memory and recognition).
- 1890. Harlan's Hawk. Auk, VII, July, 1890. Talbot speaks of "the specimens I have secured here, particularly in the fall." This might, or might not, mean Woodbury County, or even Iowa.
- 1895. Red-shafted Flicker. Iowa Ornithologist, I, 1895, p. 74. (The Red-shafted Flicker is "not common in this part of the State," but is "very frequently found. I have observed it here nearly every season for 20 odd years and have secured quite a number of specimens, including several hybrids." The note is called forth by a report from Dr. Guy C. Rich of a specimen taken in Sioux City in September, 1894).
- 1902. The Cardinal breeding at Sioux City, Iowa. Auk, XIX, 1902, pp. 86-87. (Mr. Talbot reports the Cardinal at Riverside Park in September, 1901, for the first time in his observations covering about 30 years; although he quotes the Superintendent of the Park as authority for the statement that they had been there, both old and young, during the preceding two years).
- Townsend, Manley B. 1914. Turkey Vultures in northwestern Iowa. Bird-Lore, XVI, July-August, 1914, pp. 279-280.
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HISTORY OF THE SIOUX CITY BIRD CLUB 1913-1936

By MRS. H. M. BAILEY

The Sioux City Bird Study Club was preceded by two similar organizations. In the fall of 1910 a number of bird lovers organized what was called the Ornithological Section of the Sioux City Academy of Science. This group centered around Dr. Guy C. Rich, who became its president. From February to June, 1911, regular semi-monthly meetings were held with programs.

During the following fall, perhaps because of the absence of Dr. Rich, this club did not reorganize. But Rev. Manley B. Townsend, pastor of the Unitarian Church, gathered together a group of interested people

under the name of the Nature Study Club. Semi-monthly meetings were held by this club throughout the winter and many aspects of nature were studied besides birds. Mr. Townsend left the city in May, 1912, but field trips were continued by the members.

In the summer of 1913 Miss Adah Hood and W. J. Hayward made visits to the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory on Lake Okoboji, and in conversation with T. C. Stephens, made plans for organizing a bird club in Sioux City. In the fall these plans were not forgotten, and when Dr. B. H. Bailey, of Coe College, chanced to be in Sioux City a meeting was called for those believed to be interested in bird work. Twenty-three persons attended and authorized the appointment of various committees for organization. Dr. Bailey gave an illustrated lecture on birds.

At the next meeting, November 4, organization was completed. E. A. Fields became the first president, and Miss Adah Hood the secretary. Twenty-five persons signed the Constitution and became charter members. Program meetings were held thereafter at semi-monthly intervals, except during the summer months. From 1915 onward the meetings have been monthly from September to May inclusive. Programs for the stated meetings were made out and printed at the beginning of the year. No program was printed for 1918-1919. For the most part these programs were designed to lead the members over a course of reading; but it often happened that members reported on their own original field observations. The average attendance at these regular meetings ran between 25 and 30.

From the beginning much interest has been taken in outdoor work, and the field trip has been a regular activity of the Club. The variety of habitats around Sioux City has furnished unending interest in this phase of the work. The Christmas census has been made every year with few exceptions, though it has not always been published.

The members of the Club have engaged in a variety of activities. Mrs. Marie Dales took up bird banding in 1924 and since that time has placed aluminum bands on 4,405 birds. Dr. A. F. Allen prepared a weekly column in the Sioux City Journal entitled "Notes of a Nature Lover". These articles continued over a period of several years. Mrs. H. M. Bailey conducted a bird news column in the Sioux City Tribune from 1917 to 1920. Mrs. Bailey also gave instruction in bird study in the Sioux City public schools for a period of nine years. In the spring of 1920 Prof. T. C. Stephens conducted a special class in ornithology for the club members. These classes were attended by 15 members.

From time to time our members have participated in efforts to promote the enactment of legislation favorable to wildlife, or to prevent unfavorable legislation. The newspapers of the city have always been very generous with space for news of the Club's activities, and the Club has done its utmost to supply information of this kind. In June, 1920, the Club authorized a standing committee on identification whose function it would be to pass on the validity of all bird records sponsored by the Club. In 1920 Mrs. F. W. Marshall reported trapping 600 English Sparrows, while Mr. McLaughlin was credited with 1000. It was found that a delicious meat pie could be made from the pectoral muscles of the English Sparrow, but it took about 20 birds to make a small pie. In 1922 the Club co-operated with the Academy of Science to bring Miss Althea R. Sherman to Sioux City for a bird talk. In 1915 and 1916 the Club held public exhibits in the Library building. These exhibits contained samples of books and magazines devoted to birds, bird glasses, bird foods, bird houses, and such things. A large collection of A. J. Anderson's was set up as part of this exhibit. Mr. Terrell of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, contributed a fine assortment of wildfowl foods which were displayed to advantage. These exhibits were open throughout the day, and an illustrated lecture was given each evening.

Sioux City has twice entertained the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union and the Iowa Ornithologists' Union in joint session, in 1929 and 1935.

HISTORY OF THE SIOUX CITY BIRD CLUB
1937-1943

By ZELL C. LEE

President, Sioux City Bird Club

In 1935 the Sioux City Bird Club was host at a joint meeting of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union and the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union. It was a three-day convention, May 10, 11 and 12. At this meeting the "Upper Mississippi Valley Wildlife Conservation Conference" was formed. A distinguished gathering of 25 eminent ornithologists and wildlife specialists from many states made this one of the most important wildlife meetings to be held in the middle west, and the program was one of unusual merit. (A description of the program and the names of the speakers who appeared on it are given in *Iowa Bird Life*, Vol. 5, No. 2, June, 1935, pp. 23-27.)

The Club's first publication appeared in September, 1934. It was a mimeographed news letter, called *Sioux City Bird Study Review*, and edited by R. D. Hisson, of the Central High School biology department. The present official publication, *The Dickcissel*, also mimeographed, appeared for the first time in April, 1935, and has been continued at rather regular intervals since that time. It was named for a certain little bird which is known as a resident of the prairie states of the Mississippi Valley.

In February, 1941, the Club participated in an active campaign opposed to an open shooting season on Mourning Doves in Iowa. When and where feasible, the Club has met with other bird clubs. One such meeting was with the Council Bluffs, Iowa, Bird Club and the Omaha Bird Club at Preparation Canyon State Park, Moorhead, Iowa, in 1941.

Continuous records are kept of birds observed in the Sioux City area, in Woodbury County, in the areas adjacent in Dakota County, Nebraska, and Union County, South Dakota, by members of the Club. A series of winter bird lists of Sioux City and surrounding territory was started in 1916 by Dr. T. C. Stephens. Dr. Stephens covered the six winters from 1916 to 1922; Charles J. Spiker listed records from 1922 to 1926; William Youngworth, the four winters from 1926 to 1930; Wilfred D. Crabb, the eight winters from 1930 to 1938; Jean L. Laffoon, the three winters from 1938 to 1941; a total of eight papers covering 25 winters.

Bruce F. Stiles, now of the Fish and Game Division of the Iowa Conservation Commission, and W. W. Trusell, a state conservation officer, have made valuable bird records in this area. Mr. Trusell, observing for the Fish and Wildlife Service, has made many records on migratory waterfowl in this area.

The trip to see geese on the "bottoms" of the Missouri River around March 20 has become an annual feature. The Club has availed itself of the opportunities so generously offered by the two radio stations here, KSCJ and KTRI, in giving programs on birds.

The Garden Club of Sioux City has invited members of our club to speak on feeding and attracting birds. The Christmas bird count was discussed at length on one of these programs in 1942. In March, 1943, the Club was invited to hold a two-day exhibit of bird houses, bird feeders, bird baths, and books on birds in conjunction with the Short Course held by the Garden Club.

The Club has always cooperated with the National Audubon Society and *Iowa Bird Life* in the taking of the Christmas bird census. On May 9, 1943, the Club cooperated with the Iowa Ornithologists' Union in the first annual Iowa spring bird census.

In cooperation with the Northwest Iowa Conservation League and the local N.Y.A., the Club made available and distributed a large number of bird feeding stations in this area, in the winter of 1942 and 1943.

In these last few years, when our country is at war, the Club has curtailed its activities to some extent; but we hold to our dreams and ideals of the conservation of all natural resources, and look to the future in the furthering of nature appreciation. We have tried to carry on. On our roster of those in the service of our country are: Dr. Wilfred D. Crabb, Ensign; Dayle N. Crabb, Pharmacist's Mate; Corp. Herrold Assmussen; Jean L. Laffoon, Pharmacist's Mate; Capt. E. T. Munroe; Bob Young; John Stichnoth; Dean Stichnoth; Warren Melford ("Bunny") Bates.

The Annual Dinner Meeting in March of each year has come to be an institution of the Club. An out-of-town speaker is brought in and a special program is given.

On November 29, 1943, the Sioux City Bird Club observed the 30th anniversary of organization. The names of those who constituted the charter membership are: Fred C. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hayden, Nettie R. Beach, Louisa Selover, Edith Hadley, Pearl Woodford, Martha C. Sanborn, Helen Giehm, Nellie Upham, Kathleen Webb, Mrs. G. H. Flynn, E. A. Fields, E. W. Johns, Rubie C. Pardoe, Pearl F. Fields, Ella Hubbard, T. C. Stephens, Mrs. T. C. Stephens, L. N. Hintgen, W. J. Hayward, Jos. W. Pardoe, Adah Hood, G. Vernon Green, A. F. Allen.

Time has marched on and the seeds planted in 1913 have borne fruit, figuratively speaking. Still on the roster of the charter members are: Dr. A. F. Allen, Sioux City; Nettie R. Beach, Seattle, Washington; Kathleen Webb, Sioux City; Ella Hubbard, Sioux City; Dr. and Mrs. T. C. Stephens, Sioux City; Ada M. Hood, Chicago; G. Vernon Green, Alaska; Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hayden, Nakomis, Florida; Edith Hadley, Fenton, Michigan; Mrs. Pearl Woodford Buchner, Chicago; Jos. W. Pardoe and Rubie C. Pardoe, Hollywood, California; Mrs. Nellie Upham Briggs, Iowa City; Mrs. Helen Giehm Barrett, Sioux City. On the program for the dinner party in observation of the 30th anniversary, the welcome to the charter members was given by Mrs. H. M. Bailey. The "Tree of Life of the Club" was given by Dr. T. C. Stephens. The guest speaker of the evening was Mr. C. A. (Bert) Harwell, California naturalist and ornithologist representing the National Audubon Society. He showed a colored moving picture of wildlife entitled "Wings Over the Desert." About 200 persons attended this dinner and lecture.

The Sioux City Bird Club has had numerous out-of-town speakers on its programs, as this list will show: 1913, Dr. B. H. Bailey, Coe College. 1915, Prof. Myron H. Swenk, University of Nebraska; John A. Spurrell, Wall Lake, Iowa. 1916, Ernest Harold Baynes, Meriden, N. H. 1919, Prof. Homer R. Dill, State University of Iowa. 1920, Prof. L. H. Pammel, Iowa State College; Wm. L. Finley, lecturer, Oregon; Prof. Charles R. Keyes, Cornell College. 1921, Prof. A. P. Larrabee, Yankton College; Leroy Titus Weeks, Emmetsburg, Iowa. 1922, Charles Bowman Hutchins, bird imitator; Althea R. Sherman, National, Iowa. 1923, 1928, 1938, Walter M. Rosene, Ogden, Iowa. 1924, Rev. George Bennett, Iowa City, Iowa. 1926, Prof. Craig S. Thoms, University of South Dakota; Rev. P. B. Peabody, Topeka, Kansas. 1934, Philip A. DuMont, Des Moines. 1935, William Kilgore, University of Minnesota. 1940, Alfred M. Bailey, Denver Museum of Natural History. 1941, 1943, Bruce F. Stiles, Iowa Conservation Commission, Des Moines. 1942, 1943, C. A. Harwell, National Audubon Society, California.

The Club passes its 30th milestone with a feeling of pride in this long period of continuous organization and activity. It has the honor of being the oldest bird club in the state of Iowa, and it takes its place as one of the old, active clubs in the United States. Great progress has been made in bird study and wildlife conservation during the last three decades. The Sioux City Bird Club is proud to have had an active part in the work and to have recorded many valuable observations in the limitless field of nature in western Iowa. The writer has deemed it a privilege to set down some of the outstanding events of the Club.